

News of the Day.

John J. Delcamp, supposed to be the oldest Mason in the United States, died in Alabama yesterday.

In experiments with cholera virus among prisoners in a prison in the Philippines, 10 out of 24 who were inoculated died.

District Attorney Jerome raided the home of The Allen, the poolroom capitalist, in New York yesterday and secured a wagon load of documents.

Trustees of the Catholic University of America met in semi-annual session at the university in Washington yesterday. The treasurer reported that the University is entirely free of debt.

The British government has decided not to appoint an ambassador at Washington for three months. Sir Mortimer Durand will retain his official connection with the Embassy until March 1.

Chained in pairs and most of them wearing the striped felon garb, ninety-six prisoners of the United States left Washington yesterday evening on a special train for the new government prison in Atlanta, Ga.

Nat O. Goodwin, the actor, must appear before the grand jury of New York at the call of District Attorney Jerome to explain when, where and how he succeeded in winning between \$30,000 and \$40,000 in gambling in that city.

Indictments charging perjury and embezzlement against William H. North, treasurer of the wrecked Real Estate Trust Company, and William Collingwood, assistant treasurer, were returned by the grand jury in Philadelphia yesterday.

It is reported that Harry K. Thaw planned to fight a pistol duel with Stanford White on the night of June 25 at the Madison Square roof garden, New York, but for some reason the plan fell through and Thaw killed the architect as he sat at his table at the little summer theater that night.

In an interview given out by him in Washington yesterday, Senator Joe C. Blackburn, of Kentucky, eliminated Mr. Hearst and President Roosevelt as possible nominees of their respective parties in 1908, and incidentally, sounds the praises of Mr. Bryan as the logical democratic candidate. He says Mr. Bryan's government ownership blunder was not a serious one.

The problem of producing vegetable life by chemical action, is practically solved, according to the report made in Paris yesterday before the Academy of Sciences by Prof. d'Arsonval. Artificial plant life was exhibited, which had been produced by the methods of Prof. M. Le Due, who has for years been experimenting with the artificial reproduction of vegetable life.

Annie E. Targaron, the fourteen-year-old girl who was married to Arthur J. Frost, of Irvington, twenty-two years old, on last Tuesday, was committed to the House of the Good Shepherd yesterday by Judge Stockbridge in Baltimore on a writ of habeas corpus sworn out by her father, Peter Targaron. Judge Stockbridge pronounced the marriage ceremony the merest mockery and sham, declaring that the forms of law were used to subvert other purposes than those pretended.

Commander Peary's Arctic steamer, Roosevelt went to North Sydney, C. B., yesterday morning, where divers will make an examination of the vessel's bottom and make any slight repairs that may appear immediately necessary. A great many of the furs brought down by the expedition will be thrown overboard, as they have spoiled. The cargo was very valuable, and most of it was secured at a great sacrifice. Charles Clarke, whose party was rescued by Peary, is regaining his health rapidly. Not only had this party eaten the harness straps of their dog team found, but Mr. Clarke says he had eaten his moccasins.

EDUCATIONAL.

The Virginia Educational Conference began yesterday in Richmond with a meeting of the State Teachers' Association at the Seventh street Christian Church, a superintendents' conference in the hall of the House of Delegates, a meeting of school trustees and other officers at the Y. M. C. A., and a number of district meetings in smaller halls. It is the greatest educational rally in the history of the State. Five hundred teachers were registered before the hour for the first meetings arrived, and the number will probably be four times that by tomorrow.

Frank T. West, of Louisville, presided over the superintendents' meeting. The election of permanent officers resulted as follows: G. G. Joyner, president; D. L. Pulliam, vice president; B. E. Copenhaver, recording secretary; Frank T. West, secretary, and M. D. Hill, treasurer. A committee of one from each congressional district was appointed to select an executive committee and report tomorrow.

The State Teachers' Association meeting, at the Seventh street Christian Church, was presided over by Prof. Ormond Stone, of the University of Virginia, the vice president, the president being absent. Prof. R. L. Blanton, principal of one of the city schools, made the address of welcome. Several addresses on educational subjects followed. At the close of the session the meeting divided by districts to name members of a committee to report on permanent organizations.

Improvement of Virginia schools was the keynote of the officers' meeting at the Y. M. C. A. The State superintendent, J. D. Eggleston, told of the success of hauling the children, and emphatically declared that it was better to haul the children to school than to haul the school to the children. He particularly advocated the consolidation of the smaller schools. Bigger, better and prettier schools were advocated by all the speakers.

The central meeting of the educational conference was held last night in the Academy of Music, Mayor McCarthy presiding. Governor Swanson, who made the opening address, was given the Chauvauque salute and an enthusiastic reception. The state and city school authorities occupied seats on the stage, and the boxes were filled with prominent visiting educators. State Superintendent of Public Instruction J. D. Eggleston followed the Governor in a spirited speech. A feature of the convention was the singing by the chorus of the Richmond High School, whose vocal music is taught.

Miss St. Clair Francis, the desperate negro convict who escaped from the Maine prison at Thomaston two weeks ago, was captured this morning at Glenburg, two miles east of Bangor.

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